

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS P. O. BOX 60267 NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70160-0267

JUL 2 6 2000

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF Operations Division Western Evaluation Section

SUBJECT: (General Permit) NOD-30

WN 20-000-2046-0

SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

TIME EXTENSION AND MODIFICATIONS FOR THE GENERAL PERMIT FOR FLOWLINES IN MANMADE OILFIELD CANALS IN THAT PART OF THE NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT WITHIN THE LOUISIANA COASTAL ZONE

Interested parties are hereby notified that (General Permit) NOD-30, originally issued by this office on May 14, 1985, for flowlines in manmade oilfield canals within Louisiana's Coastal Zone is being extended until April 30, 2005.

The proposed time extension was advertised for public comment on April 12, 2000. Several changes are being made to the general permit, including the following:

Conditions i. and j. on page 2 have been re-worded as recommended by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Condition w. on page 4 lists conditions required to meet water quality standards in the certification by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.

Condition x. on page 4 requires a mitigation plan for unavoidable project impacts.

Condition y. is now a standard condition for Section 10 permits and is thus included in this general permit.

Although the general permit is being extended, persons who become aware of problems or adverse impacts are requested to notify the Regulatory Branch of this District at the above address. The general permit will be suspended, revoked, or modified it is shown to be in the public interest to do so.

Ronald J. Ventola

Chief, Regulatory Branch

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- d. Within 500 feet of any stream included in a national or state system of scenic or natural waterways without a scenic waterway permit or other approval from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries.
- e. Within 1.0 mile of a site eligible to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places or within 0.5 of a mile of a known archeological site or within 0.5 of a miles of any known cultural resource sit.
- f. Within 1,000 feet of a levee or floodwall which was constructed or maintained with federal funds, or owned and operated by agencies of state and local government without written consent of the appropriate agency or governing body.
- g. Within the boundaries of a national or state wildlife refuge, game management area; national and state parks; or similar area without specific authorization by the manager of the facility.
 - h. Within 1,500 feet of a colonial bird nesting site.
- i. Within any area where the activity is likely to adversely affect federally listed threatened or endangered species, or that is likely to destroy or adversely modify the critical habitat of such species.
 - j. Within 3,000 feet of a bald eagle nesting site.

In addition to the appropriate conditions of the Department of the Army permit form (ENG Form 1721), as shown on the attached copy of the form, the work authorized by this general permit is subject to the following special conditions:

- a. No work may be performed until the applicant submits satisfactory plans for the proposed activity and has received approval by the District Engineer.
- b. This permit may be suspended in whole or in part, modified, and/or revoked if the District Engineer determines such action to be in the public interest. If the permit is revoked, suspended, and/or modified, the action will be announced by public notice.
- c. All required state and local authorizations, licenses, or permits must be obtained before work authorized by this general permit may be legally performed.
- d. Additional conditions deemed necessary to protect the public interest may be added by the District Engineer at any time. Any additional conditions added to the general permit will be announced by the public notice.

- o. Permittee must install and maintain, at his expense, any safety lights, signs, and signals prescribed by the U.s. Coast guard, through regulations or otherwise, on its authorized flowline(s).
- p. Use of the permitted activity must not interfere with the public's right to free navigation on all navigable waters of the United States.
- q. Flowlines shall be routed to follow existing impact corridors, such as other flowlines or spoil banks, rather than crossing undisturbed marsh, to the greatest extent practicable.
- r. The permittee agrees that he will prosecute the construction or work authorized herein in a manner which will minimize any degradation of water quality.
- s. The permittee shall allow the District engineer or his authorized representative(s) or designee(s) to make periodic inspections at any time deemed necessary in order to assure that the activity being performed under authority of this general permit is in accordance with the terms and conditions prescribed herein.
- t. Any modification, suspension, or revocation of this general permit shall not be the basis for any claim for damages against the United States.
- u. The permittee may be required to remove abandoned flowlines by the District Engineer if it is found to be in the public interest to do so.
- v. Individual approvals granted under this general permit allow 5 years from the date of the approval letter to complete the project.
- w. To meet state water quality standards, projects authorized under this general permit shall ensure that: any fill material must be free of contaminants; upon replacement or removal from service the pipelines shall be removed or a state-approved abandonment plan must be obtained; and there are no unpermitted discharges of oil field wastes.
- x. Projects must include a compensatory mitigation plan to offset unavoidable wetland losses. This plan will adhere as closely as possible to the requirements of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of the Army and the Environmental Protection Agency (i.e., compensatory mitigation will generally be in-kind, performed within the same geographical area as the project site, etc.). The compensatory mitigation plan must provide a minimum of 1 to 1 acreage replacement with

each plan evaluated on the basis of conditions existing at the proposed project site. Compensatory mitigation may consist of wetland creation, enhancement, participation in an approved mitigation bank, etc. The plan should be designed to replace the functions of the affected project site. It may be performed on federal wildlife refuges, state wildlife management areas, and parish or private lands. The plan must include a letter from the refuge or land manager agreeing to the proposed plan. Compensatory mitigation shall be commenced within 90 days of abandonment or installation of flowlines and shall be completed no later than 2 years from the date of commencement of work authorized under this general permit.

y. The permittee understands and agrees that, if future operations by the United States require the removal, relocation, or other alteration of the structure or work herein authorized, or if, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Army or his authorized representative, said structure or work shall cause unreasonable obstruction to the free navigation of the navigable waters, the permittee will be required, upon due notice from the Corps of Engineers, to remove, relocate, or alter the structural work or obstructions caused thereby, without expense to the United States. No claim shall be made against the United States on account of any such removal or alteration.

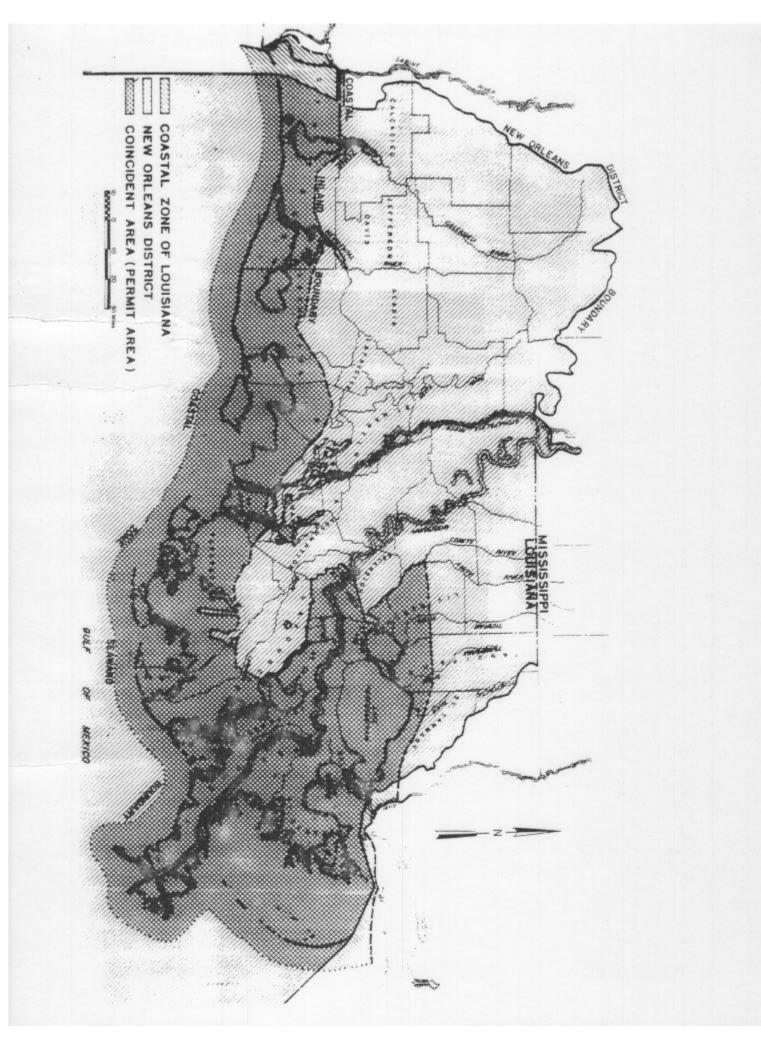
BY AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Ronald J. Ventola

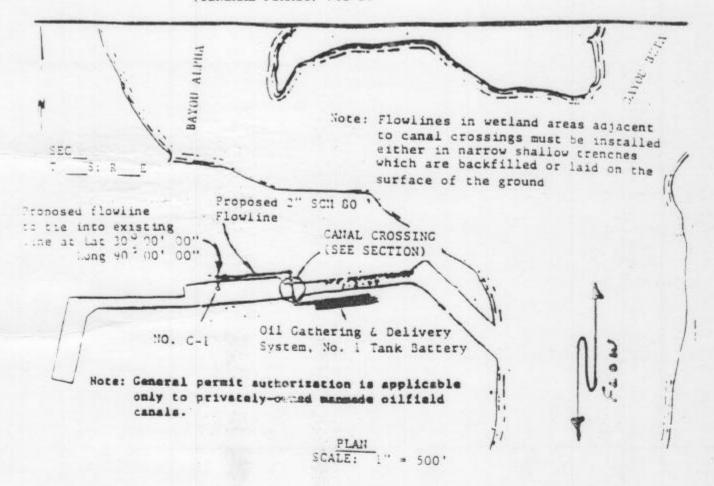
Chief, Regulatory Branch

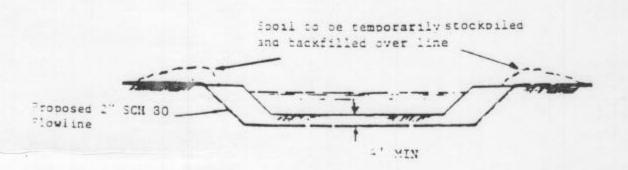
for

Thomas F. Julich Colonel, U. S. Army District Engineer



(GENERAL PERMIT) NOD-30





SECTION - CANAL CROSSING